Prairie Dunes Salutes Veteran Ross Wilson

Ross Wilson, who started on the job at $50 a month, recently was honored by Prairie Dunes CC, Hutchinson, Kans., upon completion of his 35th year as professional at the club. At a testimonial dinner it was recalled that Wilson, a club making artist of the old school, had once proclaimed that “steel shafts never will replace hickory,” but those who testified to his great record as a teacher, player and man who has done so much for Prairie Dunes, emphasized that this probably was the only inaccurate statement Ross ever made.

Congratulatory letters and telegrams were sent to Wilson from practically around the world since many Naval officers, stationed at the Hutchinson Air Station at some time during their careers, had become acquainted with him. Bob Jones, Johnny Dawson and other golf notables also sent their congratulations.

Caddied in 1914

Wilson started in golf as a caddie at Milburn CC in Kansas City in 1914 and five years later became assistant to the late Harry Robb, Sr. there. At that time there were only five clubs in the K.C. area. Wilson transferred to Prairie Dunes in 1925 as head pro.

In reviewing his long career in the game, Wilson said that golf's popular appeal to people in all walks of life undoubtedly was the most significant development he had witnessed. He added that he has been amazed by the way wo-

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men have gone in for golf, especially in recent years, and he thinks that the advent of the "college trained pro" has been one of the best things that has happened to the sport. As for playing styles, the Prairie Dunes golfmaster thinks the trend to the more upright stance has stood out more than anything else. "It's undoubtedly because people are considerably taller now than they were 30 or 40 years ago," Wilson observed. Continuing, he said: "Another significant thing is that players nowadays are taught to hit squarely into the ball rather than roll the wrists or pronate as they were taught to do by the old-guard pros."

USGA Women's Amateur to be Played in Tulsa

The USGA's Women Amateur will be played, Aug. 22-27 at Tulsa (Okla.) CC. Entries are open to women amateurs with handicaps not exceeding six strokes. The field will be limited to 128 players with places being determined on the basis of lowest handicaps. Entries must be received by the USGA by Aug. 3rd.

The tournament will be entirely at match play. All matches will be at 18 holes except the final, which is a 36-hole affair.

Barbara McIntire, Lake Park, Fla., who recently won the British Women's Championship, is defending Amateur champion.

Men's Amateur Scheduled for St. Louis CC

The 1960 Men's Amateur will be played Sept. 12-17 at St. Louis CC, Clayton, Mo. Entries are open to players with handicaps not exceeding four strokes and applications must be received by the USGA not later than Aug. 10th. Thirty-six hole sectional qualifying rounds are scheduled for 37 locations in the U. S. on Aug. 29-30.

The Championship will be entirely at match over eight rounds.

Jack Nicklaus, who defeated Charlie Coe in the 1959 final at Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, is defending champion.

Electric Car Tax Ruling

Limited uses of a battery-driven electric car don't keep it from being subject to the manufacturers' excise tax applied to autos generally, the Internal Revenue Service has ruled. The fact that the vehicle is too light for highway use doesn't make it tax-free non-highway equipment, says IRS.